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COUNTRY Rumania

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SUPPLEMENT [REDACTED]

1. The agreement between the Groza Government and the Iron Guard (see [REDACTED] 25X1A2g) titled Panaitescu's Comments on the Iron Guard Movement, dated 8 August 1947) is now working very well. No legionnaire who faithfully observes the agreement has been arrested. Such arrests as have occurred have been confined to those legionnaires who worked with the National Peasants or propagandized openly for the Iron Guard movement. In instances where legionnaires have been arrested through error, the leadership of the Guard has secured their release. Professor P. P. Panaitescu, an Iron Guard leader and formerly rector of the University of Bucharest, has been assigned the task of obtaining the release of such prisoners. Panaitescu deals with Alexandru Nicholschi, Chief of Detectives of the State Siguranta, who is responsible for surveillance of all legionnaires.
2. At the present time the Groza Government is conciliating the Iron Guard in order to have its hands free to deal with the National Peasants. An additional reason for the friendly attitude toward the legionnaires is said to be the Soviet desire that the governments of all their satellites reach an understanding with political movements of the extreme right, in order to gain the support of intellectuals for the Communist parties. The Rumanian Communist Party has very few intellectuals, particularly young ones, in its ranks. Leaders of the Iron Guard are exploiting this situation as much as possible.
3. Legionnaire leaders have been informed that the Soviet authorities instructed those individuals maintaining liaison with the Guard to ascertain if its leaders would attend a conference with representatives of the Russians and the Groza government. The Russians apparently wish to determine what will be the attitude of the Iron Guard in the event of war with the United States and Great Britain. Officials of the Guard expect an invitation to such a conference at any time.
4. Leaders of the Iron Guard are said to be willing to enter into any agreement with the Russians and the Groza government that would permit them to regroup their forces and conserve their strength.

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